

# DEOP



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## Green Highlight



### “Clean City Brings Happiness to People” Opening Ceremony



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# “Clean City Brings Happiness to People” Opening Ceremony

On 4 November 2014, General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister and Chief of National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO), presided over the opening ceremony of “**Clean City Brings Happiness to People**” (Big Cleaning Day) in honour of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej on the occasion of his 87<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary at Sala Bhirom Bhakdi, Lumpini Park. The Prime Minister was accompanied by General Dapong Rattanasuwan, Natural Resources and Environment Minister, Mr. Sutee Markboon, Deputy Minister of Interior, Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Bangkok Deputy Governor, and the Executive Team from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Interior. Around 7,000 people from the private and government sectors, general public and students participated in this event. The opening ceremony was broadcasted live nation-wide and simultaneous outside broadcasting from the central and provincial areas in 4 provinces, namely Nan, Songkhla, Ubon Ratchathani and Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya.

General Prayut gave a speech during the opening ceremony, highlighting that “Everyone should help in waste segregation to reduce the volume of waste, get rid of any bad sentiments and urgently solve the problems for people in the society for better life quality. The Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment are assigned as the co-hosts to solve those problems by using 3 principles, namely, using 3Rs principle to Reduce waste disposal, Reuse and Recycle. The government sector has to encourage the community to participate in this discipline and maintain cleanliness. We have to solve all the three problems. Government will put the effort to bring about the sustainable waste management”.

As it is close to the coming Loy Kratong Festival, the Prime Minister presented as a role model according to the campaign “**Loy Krathong Conserve Culture and Environment**”. It was a leading example in building the public’s attention and value on environment conservation, and invoking their participation and thoughts, in reducing waste and emphasizing the optimum use of natural resources. To promote and campaign for the environment-friendly Loy Krathog, in order to inherit our culture and tradition, as well as maintain the cleanliness of the river and environment.





## “Conserve the World, Conserve Thailand, with a Green Heart” Concert



On 5 September 2014, the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment organized the **“Conserve the World, Conserve Thailand, with a Green Heart”** Concert under the Return Happiness to the Thai People Project. General Surasak Kanjanarat, Permanent-Secretary of the Ministry of Defense and the Director of the Reconciliation and Reform Committee, presided over the opening ceremony, and was welcomed by Mr. Suphot Tovichakchaikul, Deputy Permanent-Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and Miss Pavinee Punnakanta, Director-General of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion at the National Theatre, Rachinee Road, Pranakorn District, Bangkok.

On this occasion, collection of Costume from Recycled Material fashion show which won the Trophy Awarded from **“The Reused and recycling Waste to Creativity Product Contest”** were shown. The concert from various artists was performed with the cooperation from the Fine Arts Department. The Office of Performing Arts also presented a musical performance as well as a cultural show. Many famous artists and singers were invited to join the concert such as Paan Thanaporn Wagprayoon, Palaphol Phonkongseng, Suthipong Wattanachang (Chomphu Fruity), Nadda Viyakarn and Suchart Chawangkul.



The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion hoped that the people who joined this event would enjoy the entertainment and be very happy. Moreover, reconciliation was also enhanced and the sense of ownership to take care and protect the nation’s natural resources and environment in a sustainable way was strengthened.

## The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion Co-launching “Store without Plastic Bags” Project

On 26 August 2014, the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, in cooperation with Tesco Lotus Store organized a press conference to launch the new environmental friendly project called “I Hold : Planet-Friendly Mobile Phones” and to start the “Store without Plastic Bags” Project under the campaign “Proud Not to Use Bags”. Miss Pavinee Punnakanta, Director-General of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, joined the press conference with The Officers of Public Education and Extension Division at Tesco Lotus Express, Sukhaphibal 1 Branch. The project aims to campaign to reduce the garbage volume. Tesco Lotus targets to reduce garbage from 20 million plastic bags this year.



## Department of Environmental Quality Promotion recorded the “Thai People with Green Hearts” TV Program

On 24 October 2014, Mr. Bunpot Amaraphibal, Director of Public Education and Extension Division, Mrs. Malee Hutacharoen, Director Bureau of Public Participatory Promotion, and Dr. Pornpimol Varathon, Director of Environmentally Friendly Production and Consumption Promotion, Department of Environmental Quality Promotion were recorded on the “Thai People with Green Hearts” Program at Bright TV Channel.

Mr. Bunpot Amaraphibal, Director of Public Education and Extension Division, gave an interview on the “Thai People with Green Hearts” Program in 2 topics as follows :

The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion initiated the Mahingsa (Little Buffalo) which has been established since 2005, pursuing and allowing 8-18 years old to form up their group to investigate and set up their local natural resources and environmental issue through 4 challenging stages, namely searching, surveying, conservation and sharing. Each youth group has to find a group coach to mentor and give advice for the project. The coach is



needed to have time to regularly go into the area with the children. Coaches are trained by the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion before starting the project. Each youth group was enthusiastic even without financial support. The youth groups and their coaches participated in the project with their loving nature hearts. To recognize their efforts, the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion has organized an award-giving ceremony to the youth group and their project coaches who pass the criteria every year, as an inspiration in local environment protection. At present, there are about 466 coaches in Mahingsa Project, 1,287 projects and more than 9,500 young people whom have experiences in Mahingsa Project. The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion has recently changed the project coach training with the core coach training, in order to expand its network to other interested people. The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion expects that in the future, the country’s nature and environment will be better with these little hands.

The second topic is Zero Waste Community Project. The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment supported waste disposal, building awareness and all-sector participation was enhanced to segregate and bring the waste back to optimal use. The 3Rs principle : Reduce, Reuse and Recycle has been introduced for awareness, as a better alternative to dumping everything into a bin and ending up into the landfill waste management method. The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion also organized the Zero Waste

Community Project Contest since 2009 up to the present. An integrated model community in waste disposal originated from this operation.

Dr. Pornpimol Varathon, Director of Environmentally Friendly Production and Consumption gave an interview about its operation on the environmentally friendly consumption aspect as follows:

As work in collaboration between Department of Environmental Quality Promotion and the Office of the Basic Education Commission, the “Leaders for Change” Training Course was organized with the contents involving waste water management, waste disposal and sufficiency economy study.

The Environmental Research and Training Center under the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion has an initiative to support and coach the entrepreneurs for self-certified low carbon emission label to meet the standard criteria. Up till now, there are 24 self-certifying products.

The Bureau of Public Participatory Promotion has set up the environmentally-friendly production evaluation criteria for small enterprises, green offices, temples and mosques.

In order to boost up the public information and awareness to be more widespread, the Public Education and Extension Division communicated and made publicity on radio, printed media concerning the environmentally friendly consumption.

As information is where knowledge and data is derived, the Information Technology and Communications Center set up the database on Green hotel/ environmentally friendly consumption.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Coaching Activity

**“Practical experiences from senior to junior personnel : verbal advice to develop our organization”**

On 4 August 2014, the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion organized the first of the Coaching Activity under the theme “Practical experiences from senior to junior personnel : verbal advice to develop our organization”. The activity was honored by the presence of Mr. Sakol Thinakul, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, as a distinguished speaker, to share his working experience to the younger generation. His suggestions were summarized as follows 1) Working method should be according and follow rules and regulations, righteousness, transparency and honesty which would protect oneself 2) Considering and implement the good practices from Executives and adapt them 3) Observe and up-to-date the information about those organization activities in order to apply them in collaborate or value add up and effectiveness.

Furthermore, Mr. Sakol Thinakul also shared his expectations that the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion should be the leading example, as a green organization model. He also provided some interesting thoughts to the new officers, as follows 1) government budget spending should be economical, worthwhile and not extravagant 2) seniority and respectful of the colleagues, work together as siblings in the same family, and always help and support each other



3) every personnel of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion is expected to do assigned work with his/her full capacity and dedication, which will bring forward successful outcomes and achieve the goals 4) senior personnel are urged to share and coach the juniors about their work, to use reason and not merely order the junior around and use emotion while working, which will help in reducing the age gap in the organization and in encouraging the juniors to consult more with the seniors.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Coaching Activity

**“My name is Pi Turk, My Heart is the Forest and Fate Has Led Me to Care for the Environment”**



On 11 September 2014, the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion organized the Coaching Activity which was honored by the presence of Mr. Sermiyot Sommun, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, as a distinguished speaker to share his working experience. He took on the role as “My name is Pi Turk, My Heart is the Forest and Fate Has Led Me to Care for the Environment” under the theme “Practical experiences from senior to junior personnel : verbal advice to develop our organization”.

During this activity, Mr. Sermiyot Sommun exchanged views and shared his working experiences. He also shared his principles and insights from various missions by emphasizing on working with honesty, ambition and diligence. He advised us to work harder than others in order to be successful.

## “Knowledge Management (KM) for the Year 2014” Activity for Fiscal Year 2015

The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment organized the “Knowledge Management for the Year 2014” Project during 26-28 September 2014 at Rayong Resort and Kiangtalay Resort. The opening ceremony on 27 September 2014 was presided over by Miss Pavinee Punnakanta, Director-General of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion.

The various activities in the project comprised of

- Tod Pha Pa (offering robes to Buddhist monks at monastery) with recyclable waste at Wat Mongkolsamakkithammothai (Khao-sap Temple) led by Mr. Sakol Thinakul, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, accompanied with the Executive Team and officers from the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion
- Ha Hae (Happy and Merry) Sports Game, to build up teamwork and harmony among the personnel of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion and the body of knowledge



management dialogue activity, including activities on knowledge management in 6 bases as follows:

1. Green Office Base
2. Sustainable Urban Environmental Management Base
3. Calculation for the Reduced amount of Green House Effect from Waste Management at Sources Base
4. Gasification Stove without Smoke Emission Base
5. Natural Resources and Environment Database, at the area and community level for waste disposal sites
6. Carbon Label Base to Build Knowledge and Understanding



# Go Paperless: 10 Apps That Purge The Parchment

We use our phones for all sorts of things - entertainment, information and connection with others. These marvels of technological wonder also give many of us the ability to go paperless.

Ponder these stats...

- The U.S. consumes 69 million tons of paper and paperboard every year
- Each year, more than 2 billion books, 350 million magazines, and 24 billion newspapers are published

Is it time to 'purge the paper'? Here are 10 apps that will help you reduce the amount of paper you use every year.



- **Evernote** is the most popular and dynamic app that helps you manage your notes, receipts, and documents that are emailed to you. You can have the app on your phone or device and then see the items on your desktop when logged into your account. Evernote also allows you to save attachments you receive in your email seamlessly in the app for easy reference and reading. It even has technology that can read your handwriting and convert it to text making it one of the most dynamic apps that you can have to eliminate paper in your life.



- **Google Drive** is a great app for those who use Google Docs frequently. This app links to your **Google Docs** and allows you to edit them from your mobile devices. It is a great app for a person who travels often or works collaboratively with others and needs to change documents quickly and on the go.



- News and book apps like **Kindle, Nook, Zinio, NYTimes, Press Reader** and other newspaper/magazine apps allow you to read the print versions on your phone, computer or other electronic device like and iPad or Kindle. The apps themselves are all free. These apps alone can save tons of paper per year from being produced and consumed. Looking to power your cell phone or tablet with the sun? We've got your solution.



- **Epicurious** is fantastic for the cook and grocery shopper in the household. You can save your own recipes in the app as well as save other recipes you like from various sources on the web. One of the best parts of the app is the grocery list function, it creates a grocery list from the recipes you are have marked for the grocery list. This app is particularly helpful for holiday meal planning.



- **CamCard** is a great app that helps you ditch the business cards. This app uses the camera on your phone to read business cards or allows you swap information with other CamCard users. It allows you sort, add notes, and other functions that makes this more than just a business card storage app. The free version has some limitation if you are a heavy user but the free version should be adequate for most users.



- **Adobe EchoSign** lets you sign documents via the app rather than having to print them out just to sign them. The app is compatible with SkyDrive, Dropbox, Google Drive, or Box accounts making it easy to manage with your existing document systems. This is a free app but does require a subscription if you are going to use it more than 5 times per month.

What apps have you found helpful in reducing your paper waste?



Source: <http://www.earth911.com/eco-tech/go-paperless-10-apps-that-purge-the-parchment/>



## New York City : an Old Elevated Train Transformed into a Public Park



In the past, we may have seen that there are many ways in using creativity to build sustainability, keeping in mind the need to be cautious and not adversely affect the environment. One of the most efficient ways to go about this, while having a positive impact on the public, is to refurbish, adjust and integrate what we have through the creative thinking process. Recognizing the need to constantly update and supply our needs in new functions, it is necessary to maintain the original value as much as possible.

One example of the above-mentioned idea is the High Line Project of New York City, the United States of America. The High Line is a public park built on a historic freight rail line elevated more than thirty feet above the streets on Manhattan's West Side industrial zone. It ran from Gansevoort Street in the Meatpacking District, in New York's central railroad area. Later, this rail line was no longer used, and it was abandoned and merely waiting for demolition.

Then there emerged a group called "Friends of the High Line", founded by Joshua David Robert Hammond who lives in that area. This group campaigned to preserve this place instead of demolishing it. The abandoned area was repurposed as a new green High Line or elevated public park, in the same likeness as Paris's Promenade plantee.

The first interesting aspect of the High Line was to maintain the original rail line and transform the whole area into an elevated public park. The High Line has been redesigned and replanted as an aerial greenway and rails-to-trails park. It has a perfect park function, such as benches, garden lighting, garden arrangement and flower planting along the pathways. The newly transformed area is more than 1.5 miles long along the rail line.

Today, tourists are welcomed to visit the park to enjoy the natural plants and view the Hudson River. The High Line is a place to conserve the biodiversity system, water sources and fragile ecosystem. It is an effort to increase the green area in the city as much as possible. It is likely that the city's growth will not be measured by the number of high-rise buildings increasing each day or the convenient infrastructure, but rather the number of green areas, which really do matter.

### Footnote ::

The High Line park on a disused rail line in New York. [Online]. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/5484774/The-High-Line-park-on-a-disused-rail-line-in-New-York.html>.

## Toilet to Drink

Orange County is a county next to the City of Los Angeles, California State. It is famous as the place for sunshine, relaxation and celebration. If you mention Disneyland, the first theme park of Walt Disney, or the renowned University of California, Irvine (UC Irvine) from which many Thai people have graduated, they are all in this county.

Orange County is the second-most populous county in California with around 3 million people, 2,445 square kilometers and is at risk of having not enough drinking water. The authorities predict that there will be 3.5 million more people in 2020, which will increase by two-fold the related costs and energy costs of using water from the north, namely San Joaquin Valley and Colorado River which is drying up.

Earlier, in 2000, the City of Los Angeles allocated 55 million USD for the Toilet-to-Tap project by filtering water from household toilets for consumption in 120,000 homes. However, this was met with opposition from the people in the area who were not confident of the production process, thus halting the project. The main reason was lack of public relations and communications with the public for genuine understanding of the project.

The toilet water treatment project to produce drinkable water for Orange County was not actually called Tap-to-Toilet project as horrifically named by the press! That was a writing aimed to be sensational. The fact was that the project was called The Ground Water Replenishment System (GWR) which was carried out by treating waste water from households, bathing water, used and toilet water to the level that it was clean enough to drink.

However, to prevent the public from feeling distressed, the water treated went through 3 stages of treatment. Half of the treated water is pumped into the shoreline ground to prevent erosion of saltwater into the ground, while the rest is let out to the groundwater well to seep to the ground, filtered through the layers of the earth and then pumped to the system to be filtered and piped to homes and communities again.

### has 3 important stages :

1. Microfiltration (MF) : is a low-pressure filtration process through filtration membrane to separate suspension residue, bacteria and other particles in the water. It is the stage that treats the water before the second stage, and is used in the food industry, drinks, fruit juices microchip production and medical sterilization that cannot be done through thermal methods.

2. Reverse Osmosis (RO) : is a membrane filtration process (layers of thin plastic) using high-pressure to separate and block passage of virus, bacteria, pesticides, organic substances and non-organic substances. This is the same process that the bottled drinking water industry and the household water filtration system use. As a point of comparison, if expanded 100 times, the molecule of chemical substances will be equal to the size of a football, a virus would be equal to a delivery truck, and bacteria would be equal to an elephant. These will not be able to pass through the small holes of the RO membrane.

3. Ultra Violet Light (UV) and Hydrogen Peroxide : uses UV light, which is the same as the type used in sterilizing bacteria in the medical industry, and uses  $H_2O_2$  in destroying the carbon dioxide gas remaining to produce totally pure water.

Footnote : <http://www.gwrssystem.com/about/process.html>



Green way

# End of Excess

Some may still be unaware, not realizing that our living and consumption exploit resources of the earth? Or how it does so? Current behavior is one of excess, consuming without any thought. Look around ourselves and we will see how we are connected to the entire earth. You may have heard, pick one flower and it moves the stars above. How does our living and consumption affect others, by some how?

The production and consumption in excess is the culprit, it leads to many issues. We don't need to look far, just look at how we carry on our lives. Here is the story.....

## Paper eats up the forest

Every time we decide to buy a book, we usually do not think that it is costly because one book is not produced to be read only once.

Without the invention of paper, tons and tons of ideas and discoveries would have been lost. Paper seems to be just normal stuff, but they are actually the second main production to fuel, and mostly evolved with deforestation. In a typical day of living, we are surrounded by piles of paper. Take a glance--newspapers, magazines, books, posters, packaging, photocopy paper, cardboard stuffed in shoes, toilet paper, or even bank notes.

This does not even include yet junk mail to introduce products, catalogues of discount items in supermarkets, advertisements for houses, condominiums, Townhomes, and other paper products more than 5,000 items. Try to roughly calculate how many tons of paper per year do we use.

In each ton of paper, 2-3 tons of trees are traded. Trees have to be cut from somewhere on this earth. The highest loss rate is in Africa, Latin America, Caribbean, and many places in Asia. To make a clear picture, we are losing two times the area of Paris each day, or equal to 33 football fields per minute, including 50,000 plant species per year. In October 2008, economists from the European Union warned that the global economic cost related to loss of forests is larger than the financial crisis, which is valued at 2-5 million million dollars per year.

The production of paper is one out of five industries that the most emit greenhouse gases. The production of paper pulp uses many chemicals, including color dyeing, ink setting, whitening, cropping and varnishing. It is said that "Spices are important to food, and chemicals are important to paper".

Some may argue that we reforest and plant trees, especially in China and India there are enormous investments on planting trees. The production of processed paper is free of biodiversity and immunity from diseases, not different from "green desert".

On the opposite side, a natural forest holds and filters clean water, preserve the soil surface and functions like a giant sponge, absorbing the flow of water to streams and rivers, and fortifying the raking of forests to open up the flow of water, mudslides and floods from heavy rain.

Therefore, every single piece of paper is a part of a tree and forest habitat, and a large amount of water used to produce paper pulp, fuels and lubricants used for machines to move logs to factories. Moreover, there are whitening chemicals to whiten the color of paper. To conclude, each ton of paper production consumed various resources in total of 98 tons, well, this is too much!

**Shall we start to be concerned and reduce usage of paper?**

### Source :

Department of Environmental Quality Promotion Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2013. THINK . EAT . SAVE, for Sustainable Environment 53 - 56



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ปท. บางพลัด

ไม่ถึงผู้รับกรุณาส่งคืน

สิ่งตีพิมพ์

เหตุขัดข้องที่นำจ่ายผู้รับไม่ได้

- 1. จำนวนไม่ชัดเจน
- 2. ไม่มีเลขที่บ้านตามจำนวน
- 3. ไม่ยอมรับ
- 4. ไม่ปฏิบัติตามจำนวน
- 5. ไม่มารับภายในกำหนด
- 6. เลิกกิจการ
- 7. ย้ายไปทราบที่อยู่ใหม่
- 8. อื่นๆ

ลงชื่อ.....

Reminder: The first step of waste prevention has been overshadowed by a focus on recycling. Please help to promote a greater awareness of the importance of the "Reduce" part of the Reduce-Reuse-Recycle mantra.